

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 2009*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to be present in the Capitol for two votes on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. However, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 746, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3221—the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009, and "yea" on H. Res. 260, supporting efforts to reduce infant mortality in the United States.

## TRIBUTE TO DR. EZELL PITTMAN AND THE RIDGEWOOD FOUNDATION

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 2009*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Ridgewood Foundation and its longtime tour coordinator Dr. Ezell Pittman. This Foundation was established to enhance the lives of residents in the Ridgewood community—physically, educationally and economically. Over the years, however, it has earned a reputation as being much more.

In 1990, the late Reverend Levi Chavous who was a good friend of mine and pastor of Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church for forty years founded the Ridgewood Foundation in consultation with Ms. Glenice Pearson. Their mission was to help better the communities that surrounded their church.

The first challenge was to raise money for the Ridgewood Foundation. In 1993 Mrs. Deborah Breedlove, who served as the financial advisor, and the late Mrs. Mamie Floyd, a retired school teacher and community activist, organized a three-day trip to Potomac Mills in Virginia, the National Mall and the Frederick Douglas Museum in our nation's capitol. The trip was such a resounding fundraising success that Dr. Ezell Pittman, a retired public servant, was enlisted to serve as the tour coordinator for the Foundation.

Funds raised by the organization were used to provide introductory computer classes for seniors, a hypertension and diabetes program in the Ridgewood community, and scholarships for students graduating from Eau Claire High School. In the early years, the trips were promoted by asking the executive directors of the Aiken, Columbia and Florence Housing Authorities and the Columbia Urban League to sponsor youth to travel with the Foundation.

Dr. Pittman took on his task of tour coordination with great zeal, and after the first Washington, DC area trip, subsequent four and seven-day trips were planned. Since 2001 four fundraising trips lasting fourteen days or

longer benefitting the Ridgewood Foundation have been undertaken from coast to coast. Under Dr. Pittman's leadership, the Foundation has taken travelers to the 48 continental states, Eastern Canada and Mexico. The trips have included travelers from South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and New York.

After fifteen years and numerous trips, Dr. Pittman is relinquishing his position as tour coordinator for the Ridgewood Foundation. His service to the Foundation has been invaluable and his commitment over the last 15 years has been greatly appreciated.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our fellow colleagues join me in commending Dr. Ezell Pittman for his service to the community of Ridgewood and to the Foundation that helps support its quality of life. The Ridgewood Foundation will continue its good works, and its members will continue to follow the wonderful example set by Dr. Pittman.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 2009*

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, as a leader on earmark reform, I am committed to protecting taxpayers' money and providing greater transparency and a fully accountable process. The Conference Report on H.R. 3183, The Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations Act contains the following funding:

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP  
Account: U.S. Corp of Engineers—Construction

Legal Name Requesting Entity: U.S. Corp of Engineers—Nashville District

Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District at 110 9th Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee

Description of Request: The Chickamauga Lock is a major economic engine in the Tennessee Valley region. Commodities passing through the lock have origins and destinations in 17 states in the South, Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions, traveling an average 1,400 miles. Over the last several years, 2.5 million tons passed through the lock annually, and the forecasted traffic demand is expected to grow considerably. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers indicates that replacement of the existing lock is far more economical than continuing costly maintenance and repair. Funding in the amount of \$1 million is included for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to replace the Chickamauga Lock.

Distribution of funding: Construction 100%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: U.S. Corp of Engineers—Operations and Maintenance

Legal Name Requesting Entity: U.S. Corp of Engineers—Nashville District

Address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District at 110 9th Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee

Description of Request: The current Chickamauga Lock has been in operation on the Tennessee River since 1940 and is a major economic engine in the Tennessee Valley region. As use of the lock is increasing, the infrastructure is severely aging, jeopardizing its ability to support additional traffic loads. An extensive maintenance program, well beyond what is normally conducted, is underway to extend the life of the current lock until the replacement lock can be built. Funding in the amount of \$3.775 million is required for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fix and replace gates, pumps, piping and tension connections to the guide wall.

Distribution of funding: Maintenance 100%

## KAZAKHSTAN'S MESSAGES OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 2009*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following messages of support from Secretary of State and Minister of Foreign Affairs Kanat Saudabayev and Ambassador Erlan Idrissov of the Republic of Kazakhstan in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

SECRETARY OF STATE—MINISTER OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF KAZAKHSTAN,

*Astana, Sept. 30, 2009.*

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR ENI: Please accept my sincere condolences on the death of so many people in the American Samoa after a powerful tsunami.

Victims of this calamity will be forever in our hearts. We feel the deepest sympathy for those who lost their loved ones and saw their communities shattered.

At this moment of great suffering for the proud people of American Samoa, Kazakhstan, the friend and partner of the United States, shares your loss. We hope the warmth of our feelings will help you as you work to rebuild their lives.

Yours sincerely,

KANAT SAUDABAYEV.

AMBASSADOR OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN,

*Washington, DC, September 30, 2009.*

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA,  
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR ENI: It is with great shock and deep sorrow that I learnt about the horrible disaster that claimed so many lives of your brothers and sisters in American Samoa.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.